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Dated: 9/9/08

Signature: Valerie J. Sarosky

(Valerie J. Sarosky)

Docket No.: SEPR-P01-056  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Zepp et al.

Application No.: 10/712,849

Confirmation No.: 9511

Filed: November 13, 2003

Art Unit: 1611

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR  
TREATING OR PREVENTING HEARING  
IMPAIRMENT

Examiner: G. Polansky

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated May 12, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1, 2, 11, 13-18, 20, 21, and 23-29, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.